Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 01849 010729Z

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 RSC-01 /012 W

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R 010636Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0375

CONFIDENTIAL BANGKOK 1849

FOR ASST SECY HABIB FROM AMBASSADOR KINTNER

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: OCON

SUBJ: SEATO SECRETARY GENERAL'S ATTENDANCE AT HONOLULU CONFERENCE

- 1. REGRET YOU HAVE HAD TO CANCEL TRIP AND THAT I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SEE YOU AS YOU TRANSIT BANGKOK. I RECOGNIZE HOWEVER THAT THE JOB OF GETTING APPROVAL FOR THE SUPPLEMENTAL AID REQUEST FOR SOUTH VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA IS FAR MORE IMPORTANT FOR ALL OF US AND WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS IN THIS VITAL EFFORT.
- 2. FORTUNATELY YOU WILL STILL BE ABLE TO ADDRESS THE EMERGING ERA OF THE PACIFIC" COONFERENCE IN HONOLULU NEXT WEEK. IN THAT CONNECTION, SUGGEST YOU PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO SEATO SECRETARY GENERAL SUNTHORN WHO WILL ATTEND THE CONFERENCE. SUNTHORN IS AN EXTREMELY GOOD FRIEND OF OURS, BOTH IN HIS PRESENT CAPACITY AND IN PAST YEARS AS AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON AND IN OTHER POSITIONS. HIS TERM AS SECRETARY GENERAL EXPIRES THIS SUMMER, BUT IT IS OUR HOPE THAT HE WILL EXTEND FOR AT LEAST ONE AND POSSIBLY TWO YEARS, HE IS AGREEABLE, BUT A FINAL DECISION HAS BEEN DELAYED PENDING FORMATION OF THE NEW THAI GOVERNMENT. ODDS ARE THAT IT WILL GO THROUGH AND THAT WE WILL BE WORKING WITH SUNTHORN FOR SOME TIME TO COME.
- 3. IN ADDITION TO HIS SEATO CONNECTION, SUNTHORN HAS MANY FRIENDS IN ALL POLITICAL GROUPS. HE WOULD BE A GOOD CHANNEL THROUGH WHICH TO PASS REASSURANCE TO THE THAI GOVERNMENT REGARDING OUR INTENTIONS AS FAR AS THE SITUATIONS IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA ARE CONCERNED.

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PAGE 02 BANGKO 01849 010729Z

4. WARM REGARDS. KINTNER			
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NNN

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